



NEW JERSEY
WEEKLY CROP WEATHER

New Jersey
Agricultural Statistics Service

In Cooperation With:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.
Rutgers University

NOAA WEATHER RADIO STATIONS

Allentown
WXL-39 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
Atlantic City
KHB-38 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
New York City
KWO-35 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 160.55 Megahertz.
Philadelphia
KIH-28 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.475 Megahertz.

NEW JERSEY AUCTIONS

Vineland
Phone: (856)691-0721
Sales 10:00AM Daily except Sunday.
Landisville
Phone: (856)697-2273
Direct Sales Daily
Swedesboro
Phone: (856)476-0313
Hightstown
Phone: (609)448-0193
Auction Sales Mon-Wed-Fri-7pm

RUTGERS WEEKLY FORECAST

Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick NJ
7 am EDT Monday October 6, 2003

Rainfall amounts, none through Tuesday.

Winds for spraying, northwest 5 to 10 mph today, light and variable tonight, southwest 5 to 10 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent, 40 to 50 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Tuesday.

Dew points, upper 30s today and tonight, low 40s Tuesday.

Drying conditions, good today, good Tuesday.

Frost freeze or dew, heavy dew tonight with some scattered frost in the more extreme inland locations, heavy dew Tuesday night.

Percent of possible sunshine, 70 today, 90 Tuesday.

There is a near zero percent probability of precipitation during the 12 hour period beginning at 8 am and ending at 8 pm that could adversely affect the performance of pesticides that require a rain free period after application.

Late season hay cutting will see good drying for the next several days with no rain expected for the next several days and heavy overnight dew.

Estimated soil moisture in percent of field capacity continues to improve and will continue to decrease through the week.

Temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs will likely drop to 23 to 27 tonight and 26 to 30 Tuesday night.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period October 13, 2003 through October 19, 2003 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to total above normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 10/06/03

Temperatures averaged much below normal. Extremes were 70 degrees at Toms River on September 30, 2003, and 26 degrees at Charlotteburg on October 3, 2003.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.18 inches north, 0.05 inches central, and 0.01 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.20 inches at Belvidere and Long Valley on October 4, 2003 through October 5, 2003.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 95 percent north, 92 percent central, and 69 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 59 degrees north, 61 degrees central, and 62 degrees south.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING 8 AM MONDAY 10/06/03

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days 1/		Soil Moisture 2/
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				Total	Dept.*	
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*			
- Inches - - Degrees - - Base 50°F -										
NORTH										
Belvidere Bridge	.20	42.50	13.37	66	34	49	-7	2869	220	91
Canoe Brook	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Charlotteburg	.12	43.48	12.47	67	26	46	-8	2305	203	96
Flemington	.13	38.95	9.74	65	32	48	-9	2812	79	96
Long Valley	.30	40.23	8.61	62	30	47	-8	2256	-73	99
Newton	.17	39.93	11.48	66	30	47	-7	2591	233	96
CENTRAL										
Freehold	.06	30.79	2.42	69	31	51	-8	3051	128	93
Long Branch	.05	33.34	4.63	69	35	52	-7	2882	13	86
New Brunswick	.05	36.13	7.30	69	34	51	-8	3014	-40	94
Pemberton	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Toms River	.03	35.19	5.77	70	32	53	-5	3073	208	82
Trenton	.07	30.42	3.18	66	34	51	-9	2987	-194	87
SOUTH										
A.C. Marina	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Cape May C.H.	.00	27.41	1.92	66	33	53	-9	2987	42	52
Downstown	.00	31.45	4.79	66	34	52	-9	3121	-85	71
Glassboro	.00	32.77	4.66	68	35	52	-8	3315	152	74
Hammonton	.01	27.08	-.97	69	34	53	-7	3271	103	56
Pomona	.03	25.29	.02	69	32	52	-7	3105	162	71
Seabrook	.00	32.98	7.21	67	36	53	-8	3388	161	65
South Harrison	.01	30.01	2.52	67	36	54	NA	3282	NA	NA

*Departure from normal.
1/ Growing degree days since March 1, total and departure from normal or long term average.
2/ Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

AGRICULTURE

Days suitable for field work were 6.0. Temperatures were below normal across most the state for the week. There were measurable amounts of rainfall across most of the state. Top soil moisture was rated 70% adequate and 30% surplus. Activities during the week were harvesting fruit and vegetables, orchard clean-up, planting cover crops, harvesting corn for grain and silage, and baling hay. Leaf drop on soybean plants continued as frost fell in some areas. Planting of small grains began where field conditions allowed. Winter squash exhibited some water stains and phytophthora blight. Sweet potato harvest activities began in some fields. Cranberry harvest started in some bogs. Available pasture continued to be plentiful, but supplemental feeding will be necessary as frost occurs.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE				RANGE AND PASTURE			
		THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR			PREVIOUS YEAR
		CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK				
VERY SHORT SHORT ADEQUATE SURPLUS		0%	0%	0%	VERY POOR	0%	0%
		0%	0%	47%	POOR	0%	10%
		70%	70%	53%	FAIR	30%	80%
		30%	30%	0%	GOOD	70%	60%
					EXCELLENT	0%	0%

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR OCTOBER 6, 2003

Acorn Squash – Fair to good quantity of good quality product.

Beets – Good quantity and quality available.

Broccoli – Beginning to harvest this week with volume building.

Brussels Sprouts - Beginning to harvest this week with volume building.

Butternut Squash – Fair to good quantity of good quality product.

Cauliflower – Beginning to harvest this week with volume building.

Cabbage – Savoy, Green, and Red varieties being seen in good quantity and quality.

Collards – Good quantity and quality available.

Cranberries – Beginning to harvest excellent quality berries this week with volume building. We’ll have increased amounts of high quality dry harvested red and white berries available.

Cucumbers – Fair to good quality and fair quantity available as cooler temperatures have slowed ripening. Finishing up its season in the next few weeks.

Eggplants – Good quality and fair quantity available as cooler temperatures have slowed ripening. Finishing up.

Escarole & Endive – Good quality product is now being harvested in good volume.

Greens – Fair to good quality and good quantity of Kholrabi, Kale, Broccoli Raab, and Swiss Chard. Recent high winds have created some variability in quality due to wind damage.

Herbs – Fair to good quality and good quantity for Cilantro, Dill, Parsley, Arugula, and Baby Arugula. Basil, Mustard, and Mint don’t like the cool weather as much and have fair to good quality and quantity. Recent winds have created variability in herb quality due to wind damage.

Leeks – Good quantity and quality available.

Lettuces – Recent high winds have created some variability in cosmetic quality due to wind damage. Even though good quantities of Boston and Green & Red Leaf lettuces are

around and increasing quantities of Romaine are available, low prices are causing many growers not to bother harvesting them. Iceberg lettuce volume is building.

Peaches – Growers have just finished picking their last peaches. They have excellent color, flavor, and size though recent winds have created some variability in quality. The yellow varieties of Encore, LauroI, Autumn Glo and Parade varieties are available.

Peppers – Fair to good quality and fair quantity available as growers start to pick everything that’s still left in the fields. The cooler temperatures are slowing ripening and recent high winds have created some variability in quality. Finishing up in the next week or two.

Pickles – Fair to good quality and only fair quantity available as cooler temperatures have slowed ripening. Finishing up in the next few weeks.

Pumpkins – The cool and wet spring caused late planting this year and a light fruit set as well. We’ll probably have 20-30% less supply this year with wholesale prices expected to be proportionately higher. Know your pumpkin grower. With all of this summer’s wetness, growers who stuck to their spray schedules seem to have excellent quality this year.

Spinach – Good quantity and quality of product available.

Sweet Corn – Finishing up. Though we still have a fair quantity of quality corn available, there is more variability in quality now due to fall insect and disease pressures.

Sweet Potatoes – Good quality and quantity are now available.

Tomatoes – September weather had allowed for some very beautiful late season round, plum, and grape tomatoes. The cooler temperatures have slowed ripening though and recent high winds have created some variability in quality due to wind damage. Good quantity of fair to good quality still available. We’ll be harvesting tomatoes until frost.

Turnips – Good quantity and quality available.

White Potatoes – Good quantity and quality available through mid-October.

Yellow Squash – Fair to good quality and fair quantity available. Finishing up soon.

Zucchini – Fair to good quality and fair quantity available. Finishing up soon.